



FOCUS

FALL 2006

REPORT FROM CITY HALL

**SAN BRUNO
CITY COUNCIL**

Mayor
Larry Franzella

Vice Mayor
Rico E. Medina

Councilmembers
Ken Ibarra
Irene O'Connell
Jim Ruane

City Manager
Connie Jackson

City Clerk
Carol Bonner

City Treasurer
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**City of San Bruno
Online Address:**
<http://www.sanbruno.ca.gov>

City Hall Hours:
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Community Development
Counter:** M, T, F 8:00 a.m. - 4:45
p.m. Wednesdays 8:00 a.m. - 12 noon.
Thursdays 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

We welcome your comments.
Please call Terry Jackson,
Library Services Director, at
(650) 616-7013, or email her
at tjackson@sanbruno.ca.gov.

City of San Bruno
567 El Camino Real
San Bruno, CA 94066

"Stop, Look, and Wave" Pedestrian Safety Program

As you travel throughout the City, you may have spotted the words "Stop, Look, and Wave" that have been added to the crosswalks surrounding our elementary and middle schools, and asked yourself, "What does this mean?"

The San Bruno Police Department has developed and will be implementing the Stop, Look, and Wave Safety Program to increase pedestrian safety when crossing the street. Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

During the summer months, the San Bruno Public Works Street Department has been painting all crosswalks at schools in preparation for the kickoff of the new program, which will coincide with the school year beginning in September. Officers from the Police Department will be going into the schools in September and teaching our children the new program. Although the teaching of the program is for children, the Police Department wants all pedestrians to follow the Stop, Look, and Wave rules.

The basic concept of the program is to Stop when you come to a crosswalk, Look at your surroundings and watch for dangers in the roadway, and Wave at approaching vehicles in an effort to gain the driver's attention prior to crossing the street. People driving vehicles sometimes have a hard time seeing everything on the road, including pedestrians, so waving at the drivers will assist in gaining their attention.

Although not all intersections in the City will be painted, you will be crossing the street more safely if you follow the steps in the Stop, Look, and Wave program. The most important thing to remember is to only cross the street when safe.



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Smoke Alarms Save Lives

As a result of a recent tragic fire in the community, the San Bruno Fire Department is emphasizing the importance of placing operable smoke alarms in all residential dwellings. The department is also reviewing and evaluating various methods to meet this objective.

Many people in the community are capable of installing, testing, and replacing batteries in smoke alarms located in their homes. Others, especially the elderly or disabled, may not have this capacity. Through the efforts of Fire Marshal George Devendorf and Fire Captain Dennis Mitchell, the department carries smoke alarm kits on all apparatus. The kits contain smoke alarms, batteries, and tools to install smoke alarms, all of which have been donated by Lowe's Home Improvement Warehouse in San Bruno.

When Fire Department personnel respond to calls for service at residential dwellings, they ask permission to inspect and test smoke alarms. If batteries are needed, they are installed. If smoke alarms are missing, or have been removed, they are provided. Residents are also instructed on how to test the smoke alarms for proper operation and are encouraged to conduct practice fire evacuation drills. This program is meant to assist those residents who are not capable physically or financially to provide operable smoke alarms in their dwelling.

The Fire Department is also partnering with the San Bruno American Legion to develop a smoke alarm program. This program will train American Legion members how to evaluate for the proper locations of smoke alarms, test for proper operation, and install smoke alarms in the homes of Legion members and families. The Fire Department is prepared to assist other civic, service, and business groups with similar programs to ensure that operational smoke

Fire Captain Dennis Mitchell showing San Bruno homeowner how to properly install batteries in a smoke alarm.



alarms are in all homes, especially where the elderly and children reside. In cooperation with the San Bruno Senior Center staff, referrals they receive for smoke alarm installation or battery replacement from seniors will be forwarded to the Fire Department for follow-up.

If you have experienced annoying alarms (burnt popcorn, toast, or smoke from a dirty oven), we hope you have not removed the smoke alarm, disconnected it and/or removed the battery. If the smoke alarms are properly located, they should not be activating as a false

alarm, unless you severely burn the food. We sincerely hope that you have operational smoke alarms, test them at least monthly, and conduct practice evacuation drills so that everyone knows exactly what to do in an emergency. If you have not conducted an evacuation drill when it is dark, we highly recommend it, as most deadly fires occur while residents are asleep at night.

If you have any questions or need assistance regarding smoke alarms, please call the Fire Department at (650) 616-7096.

Smoke Alarm Tips

Smoke alarms should be located:

- In all bedrooms or places people sleep
- In hallways or areas leading to sleeping rooms
- At the top of second floor stairs
- At bottom of basement stairs

Maintenance of smoke alarms should include the following:

- Test your alarm every month
- Replace the batteries when beeping or at least twice a year when you change your clocks for Daylight Savings Time
- Relocate your alarm if cooking sets off the smoke alarm – don't just remove the batteries!
- Conduct practice evacuation drills during daylight hours so that children can remember what to do in an emergency
- Practice evening evacuation drills using flashlights

Construction of The Village at The Crossing Senior Apartments Over 50% Complete



Construction of The Village at The Crossing Senior Apartments by KDF Communities is moving along quickly, with the current estimated completion date in January 2007. An on-site leasing office with a professional leasing staff is expected to open on November 1, 2006.

Project Information: The Village is a community for active adults over 55 years of age, located within The Crossing just off of El Camino Real in San Bruno. The building will include 228 for-rent units in four stories over underground parking with 198 parking spaces. The Village is easily accessible to the San Francisco Airport, BART, Caltrans bus lines, and the remodeled The Shops at Tanforan.

The Units: The Village includes 158 one-bedroom and 70 two-bedroom units ranging in size from 605 to 890 square feet. Occupancy limits are three persons per 1-bedroom unit and five persons per 2-bedroom unit. Heating will be electrical, and units will have hook-ups for cable TV and Internet access. Kitchens will be equipped with refrigerator, electric range, microwave oven, garbage disposal, natural wood cabinetry, granite counters, and washer and dryer hook-ups.

Amenities and Services: The Village provides many amenities and services, including a community room, great room and lounge, full-service dining room, library, media room, laundry room, computer learning center, salon and spa, art studio, billiard room, central management office, and barbecue and picnic areas. Services will include a services manager, exercise and health management programs, nutrition workshops, educational classes, social activities, and a transportation van. The building will have two fully landscaped courtyards and a fountain plaza.

Affordability: All of the units will be leased at below-market-rate rents to households with qualifying incomes: 29 units will be available to households with incomes up to 30% of the median income in San Mateo County, 12 units will be available to households with incomes up to 50% of the median, and 187 units will be available to households with incomes up to 60% of the median. The maximum allowable rents in San Mateo County after deducting the utility allowance are shown in the table (income levels and rents are adjusted annually).

2006 Rent limits (after utility allowance deduction) (Based on 50% HUD Published Income Limit)

Bedrooms	60%	50%	30%
Efficiency	\$1,188	\$990	\$594
1 Bedroom	\$1,199	\$987	\$563
2 Bedrooms	\$1,436	\$1,181	\$672

Application Process: If you are interested in becoming a resident at The Village, please call (650) 588-8036 and request to be placed on the interest list. Applicant screening will begin approximately six months prior to construction completion. Because interest in The Village has been strong, prospective applicants can get on a *Priority List* to have a priority in selecting an apartment. The Priority List Application, which requires payment of a fully refundable \$100 deposit, will be available in September.

Contact Information:

The Village at The Crossing
1101 National Avenue
San Bruno, CA 94066
Phone: (650) 588-8036

Email: info@villageatthecrossing.net
Website: www.villageatthecrossing.net

Honoring Our Veterans

On June 3, 2006, the City Council hosted a Citywide celebration of the 50th Anniversary and Rededication-Renaming of the Veterans Memorial Building.

The ceremony was well attended by veterans of the community, their families, and other community members. The San Andreas Brass Band started the day off beautifully with patriotic music as guests arrived. The 23rd Marine Color Guard's flag ceremony began the ceremony, along with Tom Lara leading the Pledge of Allegiance and Diana Fir Gremett singing the National Anthem. Guest speakers Congressman Tom Lantos, Commander Roland Harris, Sergeant Vince Rios, and Dr. Ronald Strauss of the VA Hospital in San Bruno spoke eloquently and passionately about what it means to be a veteran and service to our country.

Flags representing the six military branches now line the top of the Veterans Memorial Building, which features a new brass plaque with the new facility name, as unveiled by the San Bruno City Council. This serves as a lasting tribute to our veterans.



**San Bruno
Chamber of
Commerce**

**3rd Annual
Autumn Fest**

Saturday, October 7, 2006

10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

San Bruno City Park

Food, entertainment, pie-eating contest,
coloring contest,
children's area, booths
www.sanbrunochamber.com

Work has commenced on the renovation of nine park playgrounds as part of the City's 2005-06 Capital Improvement Program. The City has 18 parks containing 20 separate play areas. This project will replace playground equipment in nine park playgrounds and has been divided into three phases. Three playgrounds will be renovated in each phase. Priority for the renovations was given to play areas that previously had older equipment removed and that received the most public use.

The new equipment and surfacing that are being installed have to meet a number of State standards and certifications. The height of the equipment, spacing of components, access ramps, and the surfacing material all had to be taken into consideration. Engineered wood fiber was chosen as the new surfacing material because of the high safety rating and its ability to allow people with disabilities to walk on or ride a wheelchair over the material. This is not only an ADA requirement, but it also gives everyone the ability to equally enjoy the recreational experience that the renovated play areas have to offer.

In April, work began with Phase One of the project, which included renovations of the large play area at San Bruno City Park, a new installation at Lions

Park Playground Renovation Project Update



Park, and replacement of existing equipment at Pacific Heights Park. This phase was completed in the middle of June.

The second phase of the project began in July and includes renovations of the playgrounds at Commodore Park, Bayshore Circle Park, and Forest Lane Park.

At Commodore Park, the newest piece of equipment that was installed in 2000 will remain, but due to damage, the rubberized surfacing will be replaced with engineered wood fiber. In addition to new play equipment at Commodore Park, the City's first outdoor sand volleyball court will also be installed as part of the project. This second phase of this project is slated for completion by the end of August.

The final phase of this project will include renovation of the two play areas at each end of Grundy Park and the one at Buckeye Park. All of the equipment at these locations will be removed and replaced. The sand surfacing at these sites will also be replaced with engineered wood fiber.

The renovations of the remaining play areas are to be included in the 2006-07 Capital Improvement Program Budget. If the project is approved, work could start in the spring of 2007. The main funding for this project comes from State Park Bond Act, Propositions 12 and 40, with the remainder from Park In-Lieu Funds.



State of the City Address

By Larry Franzella, Mayor

At the recent San Bruno Chamber of Commerce Installation Luncheon, Mayor Larry Franzella delivered his annual State of the City Address. The following is the text of his speech.

"I am pleased to be able to report to you about the exciting things that we have accomplished in San Bruno over the past year and what is on the horizon for our community.

First, I am proud to report that our City continues to make good progress toward full resolution of the budget challenges we have faced over the past several years. While the City's resources remain constrained, our City organization remains stable and strong. Our focus and commitment to three key areas of the City's services allow us to chart a strong course toward the full realization of the opportunities the future holds for San Bruno. These are the development of a strong economic base to promote community economic vitality; attaining excellence in customer service; and enhancing the City's appearance and image.

New development activity and interest continues at an all-time high in San Bruno. More than ever, San Bruno is taking its place not only as a premier place to live and do business, but also as a destination for shoppers and other visitors. San Bruno is increasingly recognized throughout the Bay Area as a place to pay attention to.

A sampling of the projects in progress and coming to San Bruno are:

Downtown, the City is working with several property owners to plan and assist improvement of their properties through our façade improvement program as a gradual transformation continues along San Mateo Avenue. Starbucks was only one of several new businesses to open during the past year. In the El Camino Real corridor, the former Peninsula Ford site did not stay vacant for long when Sloat Garden Center opened to an enthusiastic reception in March. Straw Hat Pizza is under development in the 400 block of San Mateo Avenue and is scheduled to open in the fall of 2006.

Perhaps the most exciting change in San Bruno over the past year is the grand re-opening of The Shops at Tanforan. This was much more than a "facelift" of the old Tanforan Center. Now, the dramatic new appearance of Tanforan from El Camino Real with BJ's Bar and Grill and Barnes and Noble makes a strong statement to entice visitors and establish San Bruno as a shopping destination.

A 21-screen Century Cinema will be under construction at Tanforan this summer and open for business late next year.

On the former Navy site across from Tanforan, the 185-unit Paragon Apartments are under construction along with the 227-unit Villages Apartments for senior citizens at The Crossing. Both projects will open by early 2007. Construction will begin soon on 350 for-sale condominiums. These projects

will complete the planned total of over 1,000 new housing units at The Crossing.

San Bruno featured prominently in the pages of the *San Francisco Business Times* in the past year with news of the sale of the Meridian and Paragon Apartments at The Crossing to Archstone-Smith, one of the nation's largest apartment ownership and management companies, and the announcement of awards made to the remodeled and reopened The Shops at Tanforan.



Photos by Scott Buschman Photography

Following the successful completion of Summerhill Homes' Marisol subdivision near Skyline College, San Bruno's first new major subdivision in at least a decade, Summerhill is now working on a new project. This will be a new neighborhood of 70 upscale single-family homes named Merimont on the former Carl Sandburg School site. We look forward to the start of construction by early next year.

Revitalization of the Skycrest Center at the top of San Bruno Avenue will begin this year with the start of construction on 24 new homes on the shopping center site. The original Lunardi's Supermarket will remain in its current location and will be improved with a new building entry design, along with parking lot and landscape improvements.

Across the street at Glenview Terrace, what once was an abandoned gas station site and tremendous eyesore in our community was approved by our City Council in June to be transformed into 16 new townhomes for buyers who will appreciate the beautiful views from this hilltop location. New landscaping on the median islands between the Skycrest and Glenview Terrace projects will complete a major renovation of this corner of San Bruno.

As we are adding new upscale housing to our community, the City also recognizes the need to provide safe and decent housing for families and individuals of all income levels in our community. I am proud to report that San Bruno is a leader in our region in the production of affordable housing. With over 300 apartments affordable to low-income persons integrated into The Crossing project, San Bruno has exceeded its State and regional mandates for affordable housing production.

This year, San Bruno joined several other local cities in the formation of San Mateo County's innovative Housing Endowment and Regional Trust. This program, known as HEART, makes funding available for development of affordable housing projects throughout the County. Our membership helped steer \$1,730,000 of HEART funds to assist development of The Villages senior housing at The Crossing.

The appearance of our community is important to all of us who live, work, and do business in San Bruno. Our City is working hard to make San Bruno look its best.

FOCUS on ... your library



The San Bruno Public Library's summer reading program, "Paws, Claws, Scales and Tales," was a big hit! Over 580 children and their families participated in the program, and they read for 201,788 minutes or 3,363 hours! While this was short of our goal, the Children's Librarian still kissed a real, live pig, and 250 people came to watch and eat ice cream! A good time was had by all!



New from Your Library:

Live, Free Homework Assistance from Tutor.com!

Start the new school year off on the right foot, with Live Homework Help, a FREE service provided by the San Bruno Library. Students and their parents can connect with live, experienced tutors to help them prepare for any project, exam, or assignment.

Live Homework Help is available from any Web-enabled computer at home or at the Library from the Library's Web site, www.sanbrunolibrary.org. Live Homework Help is for students in 4th – 12th grades and college intro level. Students can receive help in math, science, social studies or English. Live Homework Help is available 7 days a week from 4 – 10 p.m. Spanish assistance is available Sunday through Thursday from 4 – 7 p.m. To access the program, click on the Live Homework Help link on the Library's Web site, www.sanbrunolibrary.org.

Throughout the past school year, Live Homework Help has allowed thousands of students and their

parents to worry less and succeed more. Here's what a few had to say about Live Homework Help:

"I use the site to review for tests and quizzes. Ever since I started using this, my math grades have increased from high B's to A's, which is helping my GPA!"

"My son and I signed on to get clarification on a concept that neither one of us was too familiar with. The tutor put us on the right track by starting at the beginning of the concept, even though Mom just wanted an answer... The TOTAL explanation really helped my son, and I'm sure he'll remember the concept better now."

"I THINK I CAN ACE THIS TEST NOW!!"

Don't stress out about homework. Log on today to see how Live Homework Help can prepare you to succeed in school this year.



The

Kite Runner

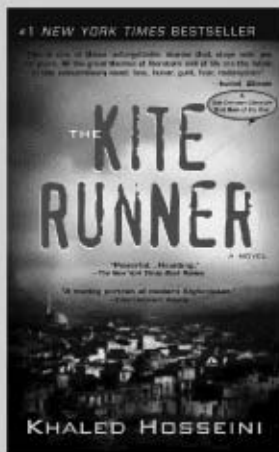


Khaled Hosseini in conversation
at the San Mateo Performing Arts Center

Thursday,
October 19th, 2006
at 7:30 pm



free and
open to the
public



The libraries of San Mateo County invite you to
join together to read and discuss *The Kite Runner*
by Khaled Hosseini.

The Kite Runner has received wide acclaim for
juxtaposing timely political topics against a
gripping coming of age story.

Please contact your local library for more information.

(650) 616-7078

www.plsinfo.org/features/oboc.htm

Frequently Called Numbers (Area Code 650)

- Building Permits
616-7076
- Business Taxes & Licenses
616-7083
- Cable TV
877-8889
- City Clerk
616-7058
- City Council
616-7060
- City Manager
616-7056
- Finance
616-7080
- Fire - Business
616-7096
- Graffiti Hotline
616-7141
- Library
616-7078
- Neighborhood
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- Recreation
616-7180
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Division
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- Planning
616-7074
- Police - Business
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- Public Works/
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- Senior Center
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